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New first-year Latin text.—Mr. D'Ooge's recent Latin book¹ for beginners is not a revision of the author's former first-year text, but an entirely new book, new in material and new in principle. While it retains those features of the former text which teachers have found most valuable and practical, it also embodies new features that are designed to promote interest on the part of the learner. The book will, no doubt, be found generally acceptable as an excellent example of the growing tendency to modernize and vitalize the methods of Latin instruction in the first year.

The book thoroughly covers the fundamentals of Latin in 112 lessons. Lessons 1 to 56 are evidently intended for the first semester; and the remaining lessons, for the second. The last two lessons are indicated as optional. Each lesson is short enough to be covered easily in one recitation period. Special classified vocabularies are separated from the lessons and placed in the back of the book, and frequent review lessons are inserted, as in the earlier book. There is a minimum of syntax and a constant comparison of Latin constructions with the English for purposes of illustration. There is also much systematic emphasis on word formation and derivation.

The principal merits of the book are the numerous high-grade selections in connected reading found throughout and distinguished by good taste in subject-matter and style of composition; the ingenious use, in the back part of the book, of illustrations, suggested vocabulary, questions and explanatory material for promoting spontaneous expression in Latin writing under the heading "Original Stories"; the fairly abundant supplementary reading material judiciously selected; and the unusually high quality of the illustrations.

There are, on the other hand, some imperfections, such as wordiness and illogical sequence of certain lessons. The chief criticism, however, is that practice reading is subordinated to the acquisition of grammatical forms. The pupil is required absolutely to know the meaning and form, and the reason for the form, of every noun, adjective, and verb in a given paragraph before he attempts to read the paragraph. This requirement disregards the fundamental law of all learning, the law of *initial diffuse movements*.

LAWRENCE W. BRIDGE

Text for sheet-metal pattern-drafting.—The teaching of pattern-drafting in conjunction with sheet-metal work or as a separate course in drawing gives the instructor no small task in compiling instructional material and developing a method for presentation that satisfies present-day educational standards. For the instructor trained largely in industry the arrangement of subject-matter presents a most difficult problem. On the other hand, the shop or drawing teacher who has had little practical trade experience is equally handicapped by the limitations in regard to material for use in his course. We need

¹ BENJAMIN L. D'OOGHE, *Elements of Latin*. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1921. Pp. xiv+384+42.